

U.S. rejects World Court ruling

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration said on Friday the World Court had no competence to rule in Nicaragua's complaint against the United States for supporting anti-Sandinista rebels. State Department spokesman Charles Redman, responding to a World Court ruling on Friday that the United States had violated international law by mining Nicaraguan harbours and helping the rebels (see page 6), said the United States would determine what response, if any, was appropriate after officials studied the opinion. The United States had taken no part in the case before the court, formally known as the International Court of Justice, in The Hague. It had said in January 1985 that the court had been in error in deciding it had jurisdiction.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Attas visits Syria today

ADEN (R) — South Yemeni President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas flies to Syria on Saturday, his first trip abroad since he came to power in February, officials said Friday. They said Mr. Attas hoped to secure Arab support for his government, still viewed warily by most countries in view of the fierce fighting between Marxist factions in which former President Ali Nasser Mohammad was ousted in January. South Yemen's new leaders have repeatedly pledged to seek closer ties with neighbours in the Arabian Peninsula. Diplomatic sources say most governments have so far displayed a reluctance to extend full recognition to the new government because of continuing political uncertainty in Aden.

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Regent sends good wishes to Djibouti

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes on Thursday to President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti congratulating him on the occasion of Djibouti's National Day. The Regent wished President Aptidon continuing good health and happiness and the people of Djibouti further progress and prosperity.

Nabil Karam wins Desert Castles Rally

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nabil Karam and co-driver Peter Davis on Friday won the Desert Castles Rally in their Opel Manta 400. George Haddad and co-driver Fawzi Sawalha came second in their Toyota Celica and George Khayyat and co-driver Keith Perry were placed third in their Nissan 240. The Desert Castles Rally was the third event in the 1986 National Rally Championship. His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein, leading contender to this year's title, was placed in the seventh position in Friday's event.

Arab goes on trial in Rome

ROME (R) — A 17-year-old Palestinian went on trial on Friday charged with a bomb attack on the British Airways office in Rome last September in which an Italian woman was fatally wounded and 13 other people were injured. The Palestinian, whom officials identified as Ahmad Ismail Givara, appeared at a closed hearing in the Rome juvenile court. He was detained immediately after the bomb was thrown into the office near the Via Veneto. Police said he was fleeing from the scene. Givara told the police he belonged to the "Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims" which also claimed responsibility for an earlier attack on a cafe.

Israeli lawyers to visit U.S. on spy case

TEL AVIV (AP) — Two top Israeli lawyers are to visit the United States next week to discuss with officials the guideline for questioning an air force colonel about the Pollard espionage case, the daily Davar reported on Friday. Davar said Chaim Zadok, a former justice minister, and Ram Caspi, are to meet U.S. Justice Department officials to work out the rules under which the officials can question Colonel Aviam Sella, now the commander of a major air force base, is reported to have been the intelligence analyst Jonathan Jay Pollard, who pleaded guilty June 4 to selling military secrets to Israel.

U.S. briefs allies on Geneva talks

BRUSSELS (R) — U.S. envoys to the Geneva talks briefed their NATO allies on Friday on the latest round of U.S.-Soviet negotiations, with attention focusing on new Soviet arms proposals, NATO sources said.

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Renewed gunbattles shatter Beirut truce

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Clashes flared in West Beirut and at one of three Palestinian refugee camps on Friday despite Syrian-mediated moves to curb violence.

Security sources told Reuters heavy fighting erupted at Bourj Al Barajneh camp after soldiers had moved in to form a buffer between Shi'ite Muslim fighters and Palestinian defenders of the battered settlement.

Shooting also broke out on the streets of the city's western sector among members of Lebanon's leftist Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP).

The violence came as militias were closing scores of their offices in the mostly Muslim western enclave as a first step towards full implementation of a new Syrian-backed accord to curb civil war anarchy.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said they saw officials of the Shi'ite Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) locking up premises used as militia sub-headquarters.

The Syrian plan provides for a special force of soldiers and police to fan out through the war-torn sector on Saturday in an effort to restore order.

Police said the street clashes pitted two rival wings of the SSNP,

within west Beirut and ordered their men to refrain from challenging army units that are scheduled to deploy on Saturday.

The two militias have been the standardbearers of the Muslim civil war. They wrested the city's control from the army on Feb. 6, 1984, and west Beirut had since been plagued by assassinations, kidnappings, holdups and bank robberies.

But religious and political leaders of west Beirut's predominantly Sunni Muslim population have lately been outspokenly critical of militia excesses, demanding a "return to legitimacy."

Under the Syrian-brokered plan, a special regular force of 700 troops and 300 policemen has been set up to take over law-enforcing duties in west Beirut as of Saturday.

Several similar plans in the past have failed to rid the city of militia chaos. Militiamen would disappear from the streets long enough to ease public uproar over their excesses and then return with a sharper lust for dominance.

Palestinian sources told Reuters

(Continued on page 3)

Beirut taxis stage strike against fuel shortage, page 2

EC leaders agree on conditional sanctions against South Africa

THE HAGUE (R) — A European Community (EC) summit ended here on Friday with conditional agreement to impose economic sanctions against South Africa within two months if it fails to meet EC conditions for a dialogue with the black majority, EC officials said.

But the sanctions, which include a boycott of South African coal, steel and gold coins and a ban on new investment in South Africa, could be imposed only after further consultations within the EC.

The conditions include the freeing by Pretoria of African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners and the opening of dialogue with the country's black majority.

The 12 leaders, after two days of tough debate where Britain and West Germany resisted calls for immediate economic sanctions, also agreed to send British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe on a fact-finding mission to Pretoria.

Officials said he would undertake the mission after taking over the presidency of the EC council of ministers next Tuesday. "We feel today's action has

given the foreign secretary the best chance of trying to make progress," one British official said, adding: "We are very satisfied with it."

The EC measures are also conditional on consultations with other industrialised countries, a condition demanded by Britain which has argued that sanctions must be world-wide to be effective.

EC diplomats said Friday's compromise fell far short of the full-scale sanctions proposed by EC states such as Denmark and Ireland but which found little favour among the majority.

But nine EC states were prepared to agree immediate application of the sanctions. Portugal was the only other country to back Britain and West Germany in their blanket opposition to sanctions.

Greek European Affairs Minister Theodore Pangalos said: "We are disturbed because we make our agreement dependent on other industrialised nations and we do not say clearly whether we will take those measures."

Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, the summit host and chairman, said he would have

OPEC in 'serious' discussions

BRIONI, Yugoslavia (R) — On the third day of their conference here, OPEC oil ministers turned on Friday to detailed consideration of how much oil they should be producing and how to raise its price.

Conference President Rihwanu Lukman of Nigeria said he believed progress was being made. "We are talking price levels, we are talking production ceilings all day," he told reporters. "We have concrete proposals — very concrete."

These are the central issues facing the oil producing states, which have seen a disastrous price slide this year to little more than \$11 a barrel but most of which are reluctant to cut their output from its current 19 million barrels per day (BPD).

Mr. Lukman, whose handling of the 13 fractious members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has won praise from delegates in the two days since he was elected, declined to give details but predicted: "We will reach an OPEC position at the end of this conference."

Pretoria reports death of 6 more blacks in unrest

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — South Africa said on Friday that six people had died in political violence in the country's black townships in the past 24 hours, one of them a policeman killed with his dog in a hand grenade attack.

The government's bureau for information — the only official source of reports on black unrest since a state of emergency was imposed two weeks ago — said hand grenades were thrown at a policeman while he was guarding a councillor's home in Johannesburg's black satellite city of Soweto.

Three people were found "necklaced" — burned to death with tyres slung around their bodies. One was burned to death in his car and the charred body of another was found by a boy herding animals in an eastern Transvaal black settlement, a bureau statement said.

One of the people found "necklaced" had seven tyres around the body, which was badly decomposed and has not been identified, the bureau said.

The policeman, a member of Soweto council's own police force, was the 40th black policeman to die in two years of unrest in South



Bettino Craxi

Craxi resigns, Cossiga reserves decision

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi resigned on Friday after leading Italy's most durable post-war government for nearly three years but President Francesco Cossiga reserved his decision on whether to accept.

Mr. Craxi handed in the resignation of his five-party coalition government after it suffered a major parliamentary defeat on a secret ballot Thursday night, minutes after surviving an open confidence vote.

An official announcement from the Quirinal Presidential Palace said Mr. Cossiga reserved his decision and had asked Mr. Craxi to continue to handle current government business.

A Quirinal spokesman said this was the normal procedure when a government offered its resignation. He said a resignation was never formally accepted until there was a possibility of forming a new administration.

Political sources said Mr. Cossiga was expected to begin about three days of consultations on Monday to explore whether Mr. Craxi's government could be resurrected.

He would then either instruct Mr. Craxi to return to parliament for a vote of confidence or accept the resignation and begin the search for a new prime minister.

Mr. Craxi earlier cut short his stay at a European Community (EC) summit in The Hague to return home.

The government crisis arose after a long period of tension between Mr. Craxi's Socialists and the majority Christian Democrats (DC), the two senior partners.

This tension reached a peak in the campaign for regional elections last weekend in Sicily and a crisis had been widely expected to follow the poll. But the results of the vote, which made few changes to the balance of power on the island, were interpreted by many politicians as a vote for stability.

Thursday night's defeat for the government, seen by commentators as a well-planned parliamentary "ambush," therefore came as a surprise.

Walters said to have visited Syria in failed hostage mission

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwaiti newspaper said on Friday that U.S. President Ronald Reagan recently sent his U.N. ambassador on a secret mission to Damascus where in talks with Syrian officials he failed to gain release of five American hostages held in Lebanon.

The independent Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qabas said that Vernon F. Walters earlier this month delivered a message from Mr. Reagan to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on that score.

Citing unidentified U.S. sources in Paris, the paper said the Syrians "showed a complete readiness to cooperate and in fact contacted Tehran and the group that hold the hostages."

The pro-Iran militia group that hold the five hostages turned down the Syrian efforts and insisted on undisclosed conditions for the release.

Quoting the same sources, Al Qabas said the Syrian leadership also rejected a demand put up by Mr. Walters to close down all military camps in the eastern Lebanese Bekaa Valley, where

Reagan, in address to NAAA, calls for just Middle East peace

WASHINGTON (USIA) — President Ronald Reagan, in a message to the 1986 conference of the National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA), called for "a just peace in the Middle East" and said that "the story of Arab-Americans is a shining chapter in the great tradition of those who came to these shores in search of freedom."

Following is the text of the president's message: "It gives me great pleasure to send warm greetings to the members of the National Association of Arab Americans gathered for your 1986 annual conference."

"The story of Arabs in the United States is a shining chapter in the great tradition of those who came to our shores in search of freedom. Their contributions to our great nation continue to grow every year as they lend their talents, initiative, and skills to every facet of American life and culture. With the ever-greater importance of their role in our society has come a stronger voice in the political process, representing a fresh perspective on the vital issues of our time — not least the dilemma of the ongoing conflicts in the Middle

East. I commend the NAAA for your efforts to encourage Arab-American citizens to take their rightful place in the democratic process that keeps our nation strong and free. With your participation we are moving toward the day when a true and just peace for all peoples in the Middle East can be achieved. I send you my best wishes for a successful conference. God bless you."

The keynote speaker at NAAA's "grand banquet" June 24, while praising Arab Americans for finally finding their voice in American politics, acknowledged the fact that "frustrations ran very deep" over the Middle East peace process.

Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, called for a new momentum in the peace process. He said, "when things don't move forward in the Middle East, they usually fall backwards."

Mr. Hamilton said that the United States is losing influence in the region because "most Arabs claim that the United States cannot be an honest broker" because of its close ties with Israel.

The congressman from Indiana said that although the Reagan

administration deserves credit for searching for ways to get the Middle East process moving again, "the obstacles of a year ago still exist today."

Mr. Hamilton warned that the United States would have to provide fresh leadership and give the Middle East "higher priority" otherwise the peace process would continue to stagnate.

Referring to the strengthening of U.S.-Israel ties in the past few years, the congressman warned: "The current strength of U.S.-Israel ties must be juxtaposed with U.S. credibility in the region." He said the Arab World does not trust the United States as much as Israel does.

The congressman stressed that the United States "must not be diverted from its global role." He reiterated that progress and movement in the Middle East peace process would benefit the "moderate Arab states" and was also "in Israel's best interest." Otherwise, only the "Islamic radicals" and the Soviet Union would gain in the region, he said.

A highlight of the evening came when Congressman Nick Rahall received NAAA's 1986 award to an Arab American for outstanding public and private service.

Superpowers tight-lipped over Mideast exchanges in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM (R) — Talks on Middle East conflicts between senior U.S. and Soviet envoys ended in Stockholm on Friday after a "frank-review" of the situation, a joint statement said. No further details were released.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and his Soviet counterpart Vladimir Polyakov were meeting for the first time since the November summit in Geneva last November.

At the summit, U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed that senior envoys should meet regularly to discuss regional conflicts.

"The talks on the Middle East issues allowed the parties to have a frank review of developments since their last meeting in February 1985," the statement said.

In Moscow, Soviet President Andrei Gromyko, meeting Lebanese Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein on Wednesday, repeated the Kremlin's call for an international conference on the Middle East, the official TASS news agency said.

TASS quoted Mr. Gromyko as saying the only efficient way to reach a comprehensive and fair settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict would be for all concerned parties to meet, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Jordan Press Foundation elects board of directors

AMMAN (J.T.) — Shareholders of the Jordan Press Foundation, publisher of the Al Rai and Jordan Times daily newspapers, elected their first board of directors on Friday in a meeting held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

The nine-member board includes Mr. Mahmoud Al Kayed, Mr. Mohammad Al Amad, Mr. Raja Elissa, Mr. Hassan Hammad, Mr. Ali Abdul Ragheb and representatives of the Finance and Credit Corporation, the National Financial Investments Company, the Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan) and the government-owned Pension Fund.

Dr. Fahed Fanek and Company

were elected as auditors of the company for the year 1986.

Mr. Kayed chaired the meeting which was attended by Mr. Rami Ibrahim, controller of companies at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Zuhair and Mr. Hussein Al Amad as representatives of the ministry.

Mr. Ibrahim declared the meeting legal after attaining the quorum with 89 per cent of the shares. Mr. Kayed then read the founders' report and founding expenses which were endorsed by the shareholders. They also approved the procedures for transforming the company's legal status from a private to a public share-holding company.

Arabs seek ways to counter Israel's destruction of homes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Heads of Arab municipalities in occupied Palestine are expected to meet on Saturday to discuss ways and means to counter Israel's practice of destroying Arab homes.

The meeting was called after the Israeli authorities pulled down the house of Rafat Said Agbariah in the town of Um Al Fahm and sentenced Mr. Agbariah to six

months in prison charging that he resisted the order to destroy his house.

Reports arriving here from the occupied lands said that a special committee including representatives from Um Al Fahm and a special committee for defending Arab lands and homes is currently gathering money to help the Agbariah family.

Suspect faces arson charges in fire at United Palestinian Appeal

WASHINGTON (USIA) — A former employee of General Maintenance Service, a company that provides janitorial services to offices in the building housing the United Palestinian Appeal (UPA), has been charged with arson.

Andre Francis Richardson is accused of setting the June 16 fire that destroyed the UPA's Washington suite.

Police report that Richardson, 24, was charged in a District of Columbia superior court warrant and was captured after a brief foot chase near his home in southeast Washington. The authorities also revealed that Richardson was fired last December from his job with General Maintenance Service.

The offices of the United Palestinian Appeal, which are located on the fourth floor at 2100 M Street in northwest Washington, were destroyed. Items that were lost include furnishings, carpets, art work and computers used in compiling fund-raising records. A

spokesman for the appeal said that charity receipts and the files of donors located in fireproof file cabinets escaped damage.

The United Palestinian Appeal, a tax-exempt charitable organization, was incorporated in 1978. In 1985 UPA was recognised by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) as a private voluntary organisation involved in foreign aid. This entitles UPA to apply for grants from the U.S. government to sponsor development programmes for the Palestinians.

The UPA receives charitable donations which fund health services, community development projects and other aid to Palestinians.

The organisation has branch offices in Saudi Arabia and Tunisia. The Washington office was relocated from New York a year ago.

There is a theory that the blaze started on a couch in the reception area.

The Jordan Times' new telephone numbers: 667171-6 and 670141-4

Israeli coalition split on party lines over Shin Bet affair

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres' coalition government split along partisan party lines Friday over demands for an inquiry into allegations that political leaders helped cover up the killing of two Palestinian hijackers.

Peres' 25-member cabinet was scheduled to discuss a proposal on Sunday to set up a commission of inquiry to probe the aftermath of the 1984 killings carried out by agents of the Shin Bet secret service.

The move was supported by members of Peres' left-of-centre Labour Party but was opposed by the right-wing Likud Bloc headed by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who was implicated in the case.

Cabinet Minister Ezer Weizman said in an AP interview Thursday that he had information leading him to believe that Shamir, who was Prime Minister at the time of the killing, knew about the cover-up.

But Shamir, in an interview published Friday, said Mr. Weizman's accusations were intended to sabotage the power-sharing accord under which Peres and Shamir exchange jobs next October.

"Ezer Weizman wants my head," Shamir was quoted as telling the Yediot Aharonot daily. "I don't intend to let Ezer, who has a big mouth, obtain his objective."

Shamir added: "Weizman is not interested in knowing the truth."

but they did not quit.

Shalom, who rose through the ranks to head the agency for five years, was accused of falsifying evidence and suborning witnesses to a commission that probed the beating deaths of two Palestinians who hijacked a bus from Tel Aviv. Two other hijackers and an Israeli passenger were shot and killed when troops stormed the bus.

The amnesty triggered a storm of protest by jurists who questioned the legality of granting pardons before any legal proceedings were initiated.

Herzog defended his decision in a separate interview in Yediot Aharonot, saying refusing to protect the Shin Bet might lead to "a wave of explosions, sabotage and murders because of feebleness in the ranks of the Shin Bet."

A close associate of Peres criticised the president's decision to grant Shalom and the other three officials clemency as "an obstruction to the spirit of the law. The president has the right... but it was done in a very dishonourable way."

Outraged members of parliament and lawyers opposed President Herzog's pardon.

They said it was an attempt to avert a probe into the affair and ensure government leaders would not be implicated in the 1984 killings of the guerrillas who were captured after they hijacked a bus in occupied Gaza.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal

of Peres' Labour Party denounced the pardon and told state television he would seek a cabinet inquiry into the alleged cover-up of the affair.

Attorney-General Yosef Harish, who had promised there would be no whitewash, said he had decided to pursue a police probe launched by his predecessor before Shalom appealed for immunity. But there was no point in going ahead with the investigation after the pardon, he said.

The Israeli press, which gradually revealed the case despite military censorship, has focused on allegations that Shalom ordered the killings and then had Shin Bet officials lie and falsify evidence during the inquiries.

Four left-wing political parties submitted motions of no-confidence to parliament over Herzog's pardon, forcing the Knesset to debate the issue within the next few days.

"It is very difficult to reconcile oneself with a decision that claims not to damage the security services... when its result is a moral blemish on the head of the Shin Bet without an investigation," Immigration Minister Yaacov Tsor said.

Left-wing M.P. Mordechai Virshupski said: "The intention is to punish the professional political echelon and relieve the political echelon of any responsibility."

Arab Americans feel less than welcome

By Stephen Franklin

DEARBORN, Michigan — Ever since last June's hijacking of a TWA aircraft to Lebanon, Arab-American Zana Mackie has had the feeling that although she was born in America, she does not really belong here.

The 16-day hijack in which an American was killed was only one of the most prominent of incidents linked to Middle East politics which Arab-Americans say have made Arabs targets of discrimination, harassment and even violence.

Ms. Mackie says many people consider her first an Arab, and not an American, and they believe that Arab-Americans have some control over events in the Middle East.

"I don't really think Arab-Americans can fit in until the Middle East issues are resolved," said Ms. Mackie, a television producer of Lebanese descent. She was born in Dearborn, which has the country's highest concentration of Arab-Americans.

Near where her Lebanese-born parents live, one can hear the five times a day call to prayer from a mosque, visit Middle Eastern coffee houses, buy fresh-baked Middle Eastern bread or book a flight to Yemen without hearing English.

With 15,000 Arab residents, 15

per cent of its population, Dearborn is a haven for Lebanese fleeing Beirut's trauma, Yemenis seeking better jobs, Palestinians from the Israeli-occupied West Bank and others from the Middle East.

But neither the familiarity of the enclave in Dearborn nor the presence of over 125,000 people of Arab descent in the Detroit area has prevented many Arab-Americans from feeling increasingly unwelcome.

Last Autumn the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) called a first ever rally to protest at discrimination against Arabs in Detroit. Rally leaders denounced a TV movie called "Delta Force" in which Dearborn was the fictional base for terrorists.

"We've got people who are scared and who are afraid to identify themselves as Arab-Americans," said Paul Mokhiber, one of the rally organisers.

Arab-Americans point to bombings and other attacks on their organisation as well as hostile statements by politicians, news reports and movies as evidence of anti-Arab feelings.

Last October, ADC Regional Executive Director Alex Odeh died when a bomb destroyed his office in California. A bomb was also placed outside the ADC Boston office.

Israeli nurses defy back-to-work order

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's 11,000 hospital nurses, on strike for nearly a week, defied government back-to-work orders Friday as the situation in hospitals became critical, medical centre directors said.

The Ministry of Health ordered the nurses to return to work under emergency regulations Thursday. Health Minister Mordechai Gur said Friday he would refrain from immediate measures against the nurses for defying the orders, which carry a prison sentence of two years or a fine of more than \$1,500 or both.

Gur, who toured hospitals Friday, said he hoped they could manage at the weekend, when staffs are normally reduced, and that the nurses would return to work on Sunday.

The hospital nurses, who have said they will fill the prisons rather than work under duress, are demanding their own union separate from the General Nurses' Union, half of whose members are sick fund clinic and public care nurses who work normal hours.

They also want higher pay and more nurses to reduce their work load.

Israeli film shows Lebanon war was 'in shambles'

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army has just produced a feature film with the unexpected message that its Lebanon war was a shambles.

The 90-minute film, to be called "ruchot" when it is distributed internationally, was meant as a training film to prepare young soldiers for the moral issues they would face while serving in Lebanon.

By the time it was ready earlier this year, the army had withdrawn from almost all of Lebanon after a three-year stay following Israel's 1982 invasion, launched ostensibly to end Palestinian commando shelling of northern Israel.

But the army found the film so good that it decided to release it for public distribution and a recent screening at the Cannes Film Festival is expected to lead to sales abroad.

The film is about a platoon of war-weary soldiers who blunder from ambush to bloody incident, kill a Lebanese child, lose one of their own men due to poor battle discipline and present an image far removed from normal army propaganda.

Its Israeli title, Two Fingers Away From Sidon, refers to army slang used to pinpoint targets in the field.

At a foreign press showing this week, its director Eli Cohen said the film was meant to provoke discussion and was not seen by the army as anti-military.

Some viewers said they doubted it would have been released if today's Israeli government were not led by Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

After initially supporting the Lebanon campaign, launched by former rightist Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Mr. Peres and his Labour Party followers soon called for withdrawal, a policy his government pursued after assuming power in 1984.

Many Israelis now regard the invasion as a disaster.

The film focuses on the dilemmas of the recently arrived 19-year-old Second Lieutenant Gadi, played by Roni Pinovich.

Gadi has to decide how to handle one of his men suffering from battle fatigue and whether to discipline a Druze sergeant who wanders off to see his Lebanese fiancée in a nearby village.

The film's warning about the Druze is blunt: His love affair ends with a slit throat when he is caught up in Lebanese village vendettas.

Chief of Staff Moshe Levy is reported to have agonised before releasing the film, deciding in the end that the Israeli public should know how its husbands, sons and brothers fared in the Lebanese quagmire.

The film was shot in Lebanon just before the evacuation of the bulk of Israeli forces last year.

Cyprus denies freeing Larnaka gunmen

NICOSIA (R) — The government of Cyprus Friday denied a published report that it agreed to free pro-Palestinian commandos convicted of murdering three Israelis, for the release of two Cypriot students by kidnapping in Beirut.

"The government has made no agreement for the release of any prisoner to secure the release of the two Cypriot hostages," government spokesman Petros Vassiliades told reporters during a routine news briefing.

He referred specifically to a report in Friday's London Daily Express newspaper that the government was forced to release two Arabs and a British jailed for life for the killings at Larnaka Marina last September in return for Stavros Yiannaki and Panayiotis Tarkas.

The two, both engineering students at the American University of Beirut, were kidnapped on April 28 and released last Saturday after what Cypriot officials called "personal intervention" by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat.

No group publicly claimed responsibility for snatching the students, but Cypriot sources said they were held by the same group that kidnapped three Soviet diplomats in Beirut and killed one of them last October.

Friday's Daily Express story, by diplomatic correspondent Michael Evans, gave no details of the reported release of the gunman, who included British PLO supporter Ian Devison.

Sources close to Cypriot prison authorities said they were still in jail.

Beirut taxis strike against fuel shortage

BEIRUT (R) — A one-day taxi strike over a petrol shortage added to the woes of embattled Beirut Friday as taxi drivers burned tyres and blocked streets with buses.

Thousands of people were hit by the protest in Muslim west Beirut, with usually-crowded main streets blocked off by cabbies seizing the few buses still running buses or with their own vehicles.

The government last week raised the official price of petrol by about one-third to 110 pounds (\$2.3) for 20 litres. But motorists say they have to pay up to 350 pounds (\$7.50) at the few petrol pumps still operating.

Taxi drivers were seen forcing passengers out of private cars, as most people braving the streets walked to and from work.

"I decided to stay at home and not go to work as I could not find transport," Mahmoud, a government employee in his 50s, said.

Underlying public concern, An Nahar newspaper said, "some public servants have decided to report for duty only three days a week because of the rise in petrol prices."

Shawa: Israel, U.S. interested in Gaza withdrawal

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A political leader in Israel-occupied Gaza was quoted on Friday as saying Israel and the United States had expressed interest in his proposals for an Israeli withdrawal from the area and a return to Egyptian sovereignty.

Deposed Gaza Mayor Rashid Shawa told the Jerusalem Post he had discussed the idea in recent talks with senior Israeli and American officials.

Israel Radio's Arabic service named them as Prime Minister Shimon Peres and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering.

Mr. Shawa said the Israelis had expressed a willingness to pull out of the densely-populated Palestinian territory, which they occupied in the 1967 war, in return for arrangements for Israeli control over "security and foreign affairs."

Mr. Shawa said he discussed the plan with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official in Cairo last month but Mr. Mubarak said he would not pursue such a solution.

The Gaza leader could not be reached for comment on Friday. Senior Israeli officials say Mr. Peres and Defence Minister

believes that relocating the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem — while the status of Jerusalem remains unresolved — "would undermine the role of the United States as the principal intermediary in the Arab-Israeli conflict."

"This reflects the policies of eight American administrations that the issue must be resolved through negotiations by the concerned parties," he said. "The construction of new, secure (U.S.) facilities in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem would not foreclose any options concerning the site of our embassy when the status of Jerusalem is resolved through negotiations."

The Senate legislation, which was adopted unanimously June 25 as part of an embassy security bill, forbids any funds to be spent on a new U.S. embassy in Israel that would be located more than five miles from the Israeli Knesset in Jerusalem. But the amendment permits the secretary of state to override that provision and allow a new embassy to be built near the one in Tel Aviv, if he certifies to Congress that moving the embassy to Jerusalem would endanger the lives of U.S. diplomats.

U.S. is 'reviewing Egyptian aid request'

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Charles Redman, State Department deputy spokesman, said on Thursday the United States was reviewing the composition of its economic assistance programme for Egypt "in the context of our continuing dialogue" with Egyptian officials.

He made the comment when questioned about a Washington Post report that Egypt has asked the Reagan administration to convert \$500 million in U.S. aid to a cash grant to help compensate for the expected loss of \$3,000 million in foreign exchange earnings.

Meetings this week in Washington with a high-ranking Egyptian delegation, Redman said, are part of the dialogue on the aid programme. He said that the three Egyptian ministers "have had a useful and productive series of meetings" with Acting Secretary of State John Whitehead, Treasury Secretary James Baker, AID administrator Peter McPherson, and Under Secretary of State William Schneider.

During their discussions, the ministers reviewed their plans to promote economic growth and development, Redman said, adding, "we are confident that the Egyptian government will be able to deal with these (economic) problems."

He said that Egypt, like many oil exporting countries, is suffering from sharply reduced foreign exchange earnings, resulting from the drop in oil prices.

"The United States is committed to supporting the Egyptian government efforts to promote sustained economic growth," the deputy spokesman said.

AMMAN: Dr. Nabil Hinnawi 628413
Dr. Moustafa Qasbi 776258
Fina pharmacy 661912
Al Salan pharmacy 636730
Shawki pharmacy 677666
Shadi pharmacy 640661

TAXIS:
Kamak taxi 666761
Ambassador taxi 666460
Jehad taxi 842663
Qasbi taxi 643620
Nabil taxi 662006
Omar taxi 630557

IRED:
Dr. Sheldah El Zagh 246400

ZARQA:
Tareq Hijawi 986443

GENERAL
Jordan Television 77311/19
Radio Jordan 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Police complaints 661176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 10
Repair service 17

HOSPITALS
Hussein Medical Centre — 813813/32
Khadi Maternity, J. Amm 644281/5
Al-Khad Maternity, J. Amm 642362
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 664171/4
Shamsi Hospital 669131
University Hospital 84584/545
Al-Munawwar Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abadi 666127/77
Al-Ahl, Abadi 664164/6
Islamic, Al-Munawwar 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 77111/26
Army, Marja 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

MARKET PRICES
Upper/lower price in file per kg.
Apple 240/200
Apple (green) 420/380
Apple (American & French) 300/260
Apples (other) 300/260
Banana 300/260
Banana (Mukamar) 250/220
Beans 320/260
Cabbage 80/50
Carrot (yellow) 150/100
Cauliflower 150/100
Cherry 420/380
Cucumber 150/100
Eggplant (large) 120/80
Eggplant (small) 170/140
Fruit 520/500
Garlic 800/700
Grapes 300/250
Grapefruit 130/100
Lemon 240/200
Lemon (per one) 140/100
Mango 170/120
Mango (Sweet) 80/50
Mango (Sour) 170/130
Onion (dry) 320/260
Onion (local and Valencia) 140/100
Parsley 70/50
Peas 430/380
Pepper (sweet) 260/220
Pepper (hot) 260/220
Pumpkin 250/200
Potatoes 150/100
Radishes 120/70
Tomatoes 120/70
Vine leaves 320/280
Watermelon 120/80

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel. 77311/19

PROGRAMME ONE
1600 Koran
1630 Cartoons
1635 Children programmes
1800 Documentary
1820 Local series
1920 Science and Life (Arabic)
2000 News in Arabic
2020 World Cup: France vs. Belgium
2200 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
1800 Tolede des fans
1830 Kiosque a musique
1900 News in French
1915 French varieties
1930 News in Hebrew
1945 Science World
2000 News in Arabic
2030 Duty Free
2100 World Cup: France vs. Belgium — first half
2145 News in English
2200 World Cup — second half
2245 Feature film: Come Back Kid

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
at party on 99.0 KHz. SW
Tel. 77411/19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session cont.
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Jordan Weekly
14:30 Music
14:35 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Talking Points
17:30 Animal Vegetable Mineral
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 The 15th Century A.H.
20:30 The Young Soldier
21:00 News Summary
21:05 25 Years of Rock
21:30 News Summary
22:00 The Blues
22:30 News Summary
23:05 Country Music
23:57 News Headlines
24:00 Close down

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS
* An art exhibition by Fak Hassan at the national art gallery (until July 10).
* Alan Mabey poster exhibition at the British Council (until July 8).

CIRCUS
* Romanian Circus daily at Al Hussein Sports City.

VIDEO
* "Video on Science" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 644371
American Cultural Library 641520
British Council 6261478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 642403
Spanish Cultural Centre 639777
Turkish Cultural Centre 665195
Haya Arts Centre 6671816
Hussein Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664231
Amman Municipal Library 637111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Chapel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munzab, Jabal Alweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Alweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abadi, Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 678906.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafiah, Tel. 771751.
Armenian Interdenominational Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsi, Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 4th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811285.
Rabbi's Congregation (International Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 606974.

PRAYER TIMES

03:54 Fajr
07:35 (Sunrise) Duha
12:00 Dhahr
16:21 Asr
19:47 Maghrib
21:28 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, Tel. (081) 52300-1, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
06:25 Belgrade (JU)
06:15 London, Larnaka (BA)
09:15 Athens (A3)
10:30 Kuwait (KU)
10:45 Cairo (RU)
10:50 Karachi, Bahrain (RU)
10:50 Doha (MS)
10:55 Abu Dhabi (RU) (add.)
10:55 Doha (MS)
10:55 Abu Dhabi (RU)
11:00 Riyadh (RU)
11:15 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RU)
13:00 Baghdad (IA)
13:00 Bahrain (GF)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:35 Kuwait (KU)
18:30 New York, Vienna (BA)
18:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:45 Moscow (RU)
19:00 Abu Dhabi (RU) (add.)
19:05 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RU)
19:25 Beirut (MEA)
19:30 Cairo (RU)
19:30 Amsterdam, Damascus (KLM)
19:35 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
20:10 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
01:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
01:30 Baghdad (RU)

DEPARTURES
06:15 Belgrade (JU)
06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Athens (A3)
09:00 Larnaka, London (BA)
12:00 Vienna, New York (RU)
12:45 Geneva, Madrid (RU)
13:00 London (RU)
13:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RU)
13:30 Paris (RU)
13:45 Rome (RU)
13:45 Istanbul (RU)
14:00 Baghdad (IA)
14:50 Cairo (MS)
15:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:30 Cairo (RU)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
16:30 Kuwait (KU)
16:30 Jeddah (RU)
21:30 Baghdad (RU)
22:15 Bahrain, Doha (RU)
22:15 Abu Dhabi (RU)
22:30 Cairo (MS)

MONEY EXCHANGE
Thursday rate
Local selling rates in file
Belgian franc 76.9/ 77.8
Dutch guilder 139.3/ 141.1
French franc 49.3/ 49.9
Italian lire 22.9/ 23.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 210/ 212.5
Swedish crown 48.6/ 49.2
Swiss franc 191.6/ 193.9
U.K. sterling pound 326.9/ 334.5
U.S. dollar 349.4/ 352.6
W. German mark 156.9/ 159.3

WEATHER
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair. Northwesterly moderate winds will be freshening at times. In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 27.5, Amman 37.6, Humidity readings: Amman 40 per cent, Amman 19 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman government 891228
Amman civil defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Office 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quvermech 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 118
First aid 630541
Blood bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 622900
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 8963901
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881
Nabil taxi 771125/6
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53309/60

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Nabil Hinnawi 628413
Dr. Moustafa Qasbi 776258
Fina pharmacy 661912
Al Salan pharmacy 636730
Shawki pharmacy 677666
Shadi pharmacy 640661

TAXIS:
Kamak taxi 666761
Ambassador taxi 666460
Jehad taxi 842663
Qasbi taxi 643620
Nabil taxi 662006
Omar taxi 630557

IRED:
Dr. Sheldah El Zagh 246400

ZARQA:
Tareq Hijawi 986443

GENERAL

Jordan Television 77311/19
Radio Jordan 77411/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Police complaints 661176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 10
Repair service 17

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre —

Information minister back from visit to Damascus

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib returned to Amman from Damascus on Thursday after meeting with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Syrian officials for discussions on means of strengthening media cooperation between the two countries.

During his three-day visit to Damascus, Mr. Khatib, who headed a Jordanian media delegation, held talks with his Syrian counterpart Yassin Rajouh on ways of further bolstering cooperation between the various information institutions in Jordan and Syria with the aim of strengthening Arab solidarity and directing all efforts to serve Arab causes.

Radio Damascus said Mr. Assad's discussion with Mr. Khatib focused on the current situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Mr. Khatib, who visited Syria at the invitation of Mr. Rajouh, was quoted by the official news agency (SANA) as saying: "Information cooperation between our two countries will be a positive device in building up a unified Arab stand."

The Syrian-Jordanian meetings also reviewed bilateral cooperation in media-related affairs in general and radio and television in particular.

The accompanying delegation included director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation Nasuh Al Majali and director of the corporation's engineering department Radi Alkhas.

Mr. Khatib was seen off in Damascus by Mr. Rajouh and senior information officials as well as Jordan's newly-appointed Ambassador to Syria Ali Khreis.



GRADUATION: Depicting for His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah patronises a joint graduation ceremony for the Alhijyah School for girls and the Bishop School for boys. Prince Abdullah, who distributed certificates to the graduates also inaugurated phase one of the Bishop School's new building and awarded trophies to students who have shown outstanding academic excellence. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali (Petra photo)

Local companies to produce documentaries on health

AMMAN (Petra) — Three agreements for the production of documentaries on various aspects of health were signed Thursday between Ministry of Health and a local radio and television production companies.

Under the agreements, the local companies will produce informative and educational programmes for radio and television. The documentaries will be used as part of the ministry's campaigns to promote public awareness in the areas of

vaccination, environmental safety, breast feeding and the dangers of smoking.

Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh signed the agreements on behalf of the ministry with Mr. Jawad Maraqa, chairman of the Jordan Company for Radio, Television and Cinema Production board of directors, and the director general of the Jerusalem Advertising Agency Bassem Al Dajani and with the director of the Arab Centre for Audio-Visual Services.



King expresses condolences to Zmaili family

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday deputed Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid to convey His Majesty's condolences on the passing away of Mr. Misbah Al Zmaili, a prominent Jordanian businessman. Mr. Zmaili who was born in Gaza in 1910, held senior positions in Amman Municipality, the Awqaf Council and the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

Gateway to cater for visitors to fifth Jerash Festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Gateway Hotel, owned by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, will be offering food, beverages and catering facilities to visitors at the Fifth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts which will open at the Greco-Roman city of Jerash on July 9, according to an agreement reached here on Thursday between the hotel and the festival's administration.

Noel Soud, assistant to the hotel's executive manager, said that the Gateway has earmarked

two large resthouses which can each accommodate up to 400 people as well as 25 kiosks inside the festival to sell food and beverages to visitors. The festival, an annual event since 1980, drew almost 120,000 spectators in 1985.

The hotel will offer its food and beverage services free of charge to all local, regional and international artistic groups who will be performing at the cultural fiesta.

Arab organisations take steps to improve agricultural credit financing programmes

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The efforts and investments of the private sector in agriculture in Arab countries should receive greater support from Arab financing and development institutions which should direct at least 50 per cent of their total loan volume in each Arab country towards agricultural projects while the governments of these countries should put not less than 25 per cent of their total investment into the development of agriculture.

This was one of the recommendations issued by a conference on agricultural credit and finance in Arab countries which was held recently in Amman. Representatives of the Arab Fund (Kuwait), the Arab Authority for Agricultural Development (AAD) and private agricultural financing and investment companies, as well as representatives from Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, North and South Yemen, Morocco, Mauritania and Tunisia took part in the talks. The conference was organised by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD), an Arab League organisation based in Khartoum.

Dr. Abdul Hamid Al Kayed, AOAD regional director in Amman, told the Jordan Times that all agricultural credit institutions in the countries which took part in the conference were government controlled and in most of these countries there was only one such institution. In Jordan, credit for the agricultural sector is available through the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) and the Jordan Valley Farmer's Association (JVFA).

Main difficulties

During the discussions at the conference, three main problems were identified as adversely influencing the activities of agricultural credit institutions: frequent capital shortages, an insufficient number and irregular distribution of branches in the rural areas and widely varying interest and pricing policies of Arab governments.

Therefore, Arab and international funds were asked to support agricultural credit institutions in Arab countries so that they could extend their services.

It was also recommended that the agricultural credit institutions

of the region should review their interest rate policies. In Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries, the present interest rate for agricultural loans is nil, while Egypt has the highest rates of up to 13 per cent, said Dr. Mohammad Hamdi Salem from the AOAD headquarters. As high interest rates generally mean higher costs as well as lower profits, and as they are often combined with fixed prices for basic crops, this does not encourage investment in the agricultural sector. In Jordan, where producer prices for only a few agricultural products are fixed, recurring gluts during the high season with extremely low market prices for fruit and vegetables also cause great difficulties, Dr. Salem added.

Flexible interest rates

Participants at the conference suggested the introduction of flexible interest rates which could be adjusted according to the individual farmer's economic situation as in Morocco and Egypt. They also asked Arab governments to float producer prices.

Other experts on agricultural credit, however, maintain that the issue of high or low interest rates alone, at least in the case of short-term credit for small farmers, is not a decisive factor. Professor Schaefer-Kelmer from the USA in a recent publication says that seasonal credits normally are spent on one year's or season's supply of seeds, fertilizer and technology to increase yields. The risk of obtaining credit is taken by those small farmers in Third World countries only if they can be fairly sure of a substantial rise — that is more than 100 per cent — in output. In this case, however, the difference between an interest rate of 10 or 15 per cent is hardly felt by the farmers, but it may well be crucial for the credit institution's survival, says Prof. Schaefer-Kelmer.

Seasonal, i.e. short-term credits, in 1985 constituted the largest single share of ACC's credit volume — JD 2,857,330 out of JD 7,930,299, according to Dr. Bani Hani of the ACC, and the repayment rate of these loans is generally higher than that of medium and long-term ones, he added. The reason for this is simply that the time at which a seasonal loan is normally due, coincides with harvesting and selling the crops, so that the farmers have ready money. The repayment of longer term loans is at the expense of the farm family's

net income and is therefore often delayed.

Repayment rate

ACC's 1985 repayment rate was 64 per cent, which means that 26 per cent of the debtors failed to meet their obligations towards the corporation, but compared to the previous year the repayment rate was slightly better.

Dr. Bani Hani says that the problem is not so much the missed interest repayments as the ACC gets a government refund for these, but rather the capital loans — the delinquency rate was 27 per cent in 1985. Only recently the ACC and the JCO, following a government directive, had to reschedule farmers' loans and to forego due interest. In all countries participating in the conference, the problem of delinquency looms large; the percentage for loan and interest repayments to agricultural credit institutions in these countries varies between 15 and 75 per cent, Dr. Salem said.

Small farmers, who mainly engage in traditional sectors of agriculture in Arab countries, are particularly difficult for agricultural credit institutions to reach, he added. One very important reason for this is that in Islam, lending or borrowing money against interest payment is considered usurious and therefore forbidden. The AOAD was called to closely cooperate with the Near East and North Africa Regional Agricultural Credit Association (NENARACA), to investigate this intricate question and to design and develop forms of agricultural credit which agree with the Islamic law.

Recommendations

Regarding small farmers in general, it was suggested that the number of branches of agricultural banks in the rural areas should be increased and that they combine credit facilities with other services such as extension, research, assistance with marketing agricultural products and export services. Rural savings programmes should be increased and appropriate channels for the collection of savings developed. Rural savings should finally be redirected into agricultural development for the benefit of the small farmer but also to strengthen credit institutions and to render them less dependent on frequent refunding by governments and other sources, the experts recommended.

Fayez meets House of Commons speaker for talks on Mideast

King receives Jordanian parliamentarians in London

LONDON (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez and Speaker of the British House of Commons Bernard Weatherill Friday discussed Britain's role in pushing forward His Majesty King Hussein's peace efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem.



Akef Al Fayez

Mr. Fayez, who is currently on an official visit to the United Kingdom, also reviewed the Mideast situation and British-Jordanian parliamentary ties.

Mr. Fayez, who is heading a Jordanian parliamentary delegation to Britain, met with His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday and briefed him on the outcome of the delegation's discussions with British officials and parliamentarians. He said the talks focused on bilateral relations between the two countries and the recent developments in the region. King Hussein is currently on a private visit to London.

Also Thursday Mr. Fayez and the Jordanian parliamentarians met with the speaker and members of the British House of Lords, and with Lord Whitelaw,

deputy prime minister and leader of the British ruling majority, as well as the British minister for parliamentary affairs. During the meeting with Lord Whitelaw, Mr. Fayez presented him with a letter from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

Mr. Fayez and Lord Whitelaw reviewed the special ties which link the Arab and British peoples, the Mideast situation and King Hussein's efforts to reach a just and peaceful solution to the Middle East conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.

Also Thursday, Mr. Fayez and the Jordanian delegation met with members of the House of Lords committee on education and foreign affairs. Both sides discussed the regional and international developments and Jordan's peace initiative which

Mr. Fayez said is directed towards finding a just solution to the Palestine problem through guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

On Thursday evening, Jordanian Ambassador to London Nabih Al Nimer hosted a reception in honour of the visiting Jordanian parliamentarians. The reception was attended by senior British politicians and parliamentarians.

Haj Hassan outlines new social security coverage for expatriates

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development and Chairman of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) board of directors Khaled Al Haj Hassan Friday elaborated on a recent cabinet decision to expand social security coverage to all Jordanian expatriates who wish to be included in the system. Mr. Haj Hassan said that the decision was taken upon the directives of His Majesty King Hussein following a speech the King delivered to the first conference for Jordanian expatriates held in Amman last year. In the speech, King Hussein asked that the necessary arrangements be made to include all Jordanians abroad in the social security system.

Mr. Haj Hassan went on to say that the SSC has completed all regulations in implementation of the cabinet decision to include all Jordanians working abroad in the social security system on an optional basis and to provide coverage against old age, disability or death. These regulations, he pointed out, stipulate that each Jordanian working abroad who is over 16 and below the maximum age specified in the social security law can subscribe to insurance coverage provided that he fills in special application forms

prepared by the corporation. Under these regulations the applicant is considered a subscriber to social security from the first month he pays his subscription unless otherwise advised by the SSC.

When an application is accepted, the subscriber will pay a monthly contribution of 13 per

cent of the income category he chooses, provided that this category is not less than JD 100 and does not exceed JD 600.

Also according to these regulations, if the subscriber fails to pay his contributions for three consecutive months his subscription to the corporation will be cancelled.

CBJ bulletin reports rise in remittances, money transfers

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's economy exported more national products and registered an increase in expatriate remittances as well as money transfers during the first quarter of 1986, a Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) bulletin said Thursday.

The information, which was based on comparisons between the first four months of 1985 and 1986, said the amount of expatriate remittances to Jordan increased from JD 22.6 million in 1985 to JD 29.7 million in 1986. According to the bulletin, money transfers in 1986 increased by 12 per cent compared with the same period in 1985 as transfers increased from JD 107 million to JD 119 million.

The bulletin, which said that the

Jordanian economy underwent some positive developments on both the local and international levels, added that the total amount of local exports increased by 25 per cent in 1986 in comparison with 1985. The information on the export increase was based on customs manifests for exports.

In terms of the balance of payments, the total amount paid for import licences in 1986 reached JD 229.3 million in comparison with JD 308.8 million for 1985.

Regarding prices, the bulletin said that the economy maintained price stability since the inflation rate, measured by the living expenses, dropped from 3.9 per cent in 1984 to 3.0 per cent in 1985.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dajani, Iraqi officials discuss transport

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Means and ways of strengthening Jordanian-Iraqi bilateral relations in transport and the exchange of expertise were discussed Thursday between Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan and Minister of Transport Rajid Al Dajani. Mr. Dajani, who arrived in the Iraqi capital at dawn on Thursday, also met with his Iraqi counterpart Abdul Jabbar Al Asadi. The transport minister and Mr. Asadi discussed transport-related issues between Jordan and Iraq as well as means of facilitating the loading and unloading of Iraqi goods at the Jordanian port of Aqaba.

Kana'an reviews Jordan-EC ties

AMMAN (Petra) — Planning Minister Taher Kana'an and European Community (EC) delegate to Jordan Romano Lantini Thursday discussed Jordan's economic relations with the 12-member European group. During the meeting, Dr. Kana'an and Mr. Lantini also reviewed means of strengthening existing economic ties between Jordan and the EC through expanding trade exchange between the two partners and opening the door for Jordanian exports to Europe. They also discussed the third protocol for financial cooperation between Jordan and the EC. Under the protocol, financing will be provided for projects within the Kingdom's 1986-1990 development plan.

Eye care symposium opens today

AMMAN (Petra) — A symposium on the integration of primary eye care with primary health care opens today at the University of Jordan. The symposium is organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in cooperation with the Health Ministry and the University of Jordan. The symposium, to be opened by Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, aims to include primary eye care services within primary health care services and to draw up a programme for primary eye care. Taking part in the symposium are the Royal Medical Services, the Jordanian eye specialists society as well as doctors from the private sector.

Dahiyat receives Sudanese envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth Eid Al Dahiyat Thursday received the Sudanese ambassador to Jordan for discussions on means of fostering cooperation between both countries in the areas of youth and sports.

JRTC to attend broadcasting talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JRTC) will take part in the meeting of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) general assembly which will be held in Britain on July 2. JRTC Director General Nasuh Al Majali will head the corporation's delegation to the eight-day meetings.

Film crew starts documentary on Aqaba

AMMAN (Petra) — An American television crew has started filming a documentary on tourist and water sports attractions in the city of Aqaba. The crew members will tour a number of Jordan's archaeological and tourist areas in the Kingdom which will also be included in the documentary.

IDB extends 26 loans during May

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) last month granted 26 loans worth JD 79,700 to local businesses. An IDB spokesman said that the loans would finance the opening of bakeries, restaurants, mills, auto maintenance workshops, a woodworkshop, a smithy and a photography studio. Most of the loans went to businesses in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa, Ajloun, Salt and the Jordan Valley region, the spokesman said.

Beirut ceasefire shattered

(Continued from page 1)

Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, Brigadier Ghazi Kana'an, told Amal militiamen and Palestinians that Damascus was determined to see that the camps' truce was fully implemented after five-week of battles.

The ailing Lebanese pound reacted favourably to the security moves, closing at 39.00/39.50 to the U.S. dollar, the central bank reported.

This was three pounds up from Thursday's close of 41.00/42.50 and seven up from the last Monday's record low of 45.50/46.30.

Dealers attributed the improvement to the camps truce and the latest Beirut peace agreement. The currency has lost more than 50 per cent in value so far this year.

Meanwhile, the leftist As Safir newspaper said President Amin Gemayel had asked the Palestine Liberation Organisation for help in organising visits to the Soviet

Union and Saudi Arabia. Official sources said on Thursday the Christian leader may visit both countries as part of a diplomatic drive aimed at winning support for Lebanon.

In The Hague, the European Community (EC) expressed deep concern on Friday about the situation in Lebanon and appealed to all parties concerned in the conflict to exercise restraint.

A declaration issued by foreign ministers at the end of a two-day EC summit in The Hague said they were particularly concerned about escalating violence in Beirut and at Palestinian refugee camps.

The ministers endorsed recent appeals by the United Nations "to all parties concerned to exercise restraint, to make efforts to end the present bloodshed and to facilitate the work of relief organisations," the declaration said.

It said foreign ministers had reaffirmed that the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon must be respected.

To Decorate Your Home & Corners THE Jordan Handi Craft Centre



Offers you an attractive Selection of Handicrafts that proves extraordinary creativity: Ceramics, Interior designs, Tapestries, Flowers, Dresses, Cushions, Portraits, Bamboo, Handmade Carpets By Jordan leading Craftsmen & Designers

Jordan Handi Craft Centre Where objects reflect the spirit of Jordan heritage

THE HOUSING BANK CENTRE 2nd Floor

Channel Two Preview

What a long hard month it's been

By J.H. Boteler

"CHEAT," "Foul," "Dirty Diego," "Mafia-Don-A," "Nuke Buenos Aires." These, and similar rabid outpourings and jingoistic claptrap formed the basis of the headlines in the English popular press last Monday morning. The reason was, as you may have guessed, the first Argentine goal against England in the World Cup quarter-finals, which may or may not have been helped into the net by Maradona's hand. This incident was, however, merely the latest in a line of unpardonable sins committed by the Argentine team in the run-up to the game. First of all there was the rude request, best summed up by a Daily Express headline: "Argies Ask For One Minute's Silence To Remember War Dead." This, a request by the Argentine government, was, I believe, made with honest Christian intention. It may have been misguided, in view of the vicious fascist elements that made up small but potentially lethal portions of both teams' supporters. It was not the insolently provocative gesture implied by the Express. But worse was to come. I have a suspicion that the Fleet Street scenario for the game ran somewhat along the lines of the Argentine team prostrating themselves, grovelling abjectly, and saying: "Oh, welcome, ye mighty all-conquering ones. Please allow humble me to be the first to score an own goal in your honour." This, of course, did not happen. What happened was that Argentina proceeded to rip England apart, thereby ensuring that Peter Shilton was subjected to more TV exposure than JR enjoys in a year. This was definitely not On.

Then came the goal. Now I would first like to say that I, along with several others with whom I have discussed it, fail to find in the TV slow-motion replays conclusive proof as to what occurred. A large part of the argument appears to be the fact that Maradona is a lot shorter than Shilton, and therefore logically must have used his hand. This is strange reasoning. To start with, Shilton was both slow and uncommitted in his challenge. Also, Maradona is regarded by many as the best footballer in the world, a ranking he has achieved in no small part by being a superb athlete. What reason is there for him to jump like a grasshopper? So much for logic.

But let us, for the sake of argument, assume that it was handball. Why does this merit the sort of furious headline as printed above? Maradona is guilty of an international infringement of the rules. As is every defender who handles to prevent a goal being scored, the majority of forwards who score goals from an offside position which the referee fails to spot, every player who steals a couple of yards at throw-ins.

After fourteen years with ESA, Dr. Udo Renner, left the organisation in 1985 to take up a professorship at the Institute of Air and Space Travel run by Berlin Technical University. He soon surprised his students by telling them that they were to build a satellite themselves. And they are doing just that.

The Federal Ministry of Research and Technology has made 2.3 million marks available for this project. A "normal satellite," says Renner, costs roughly \$50 million. This figure does not include the launch, which in the case of TUBSAT (TU Berlin Satellite) will come to some 70,000 marks. By the end of 1987, providing there is no scheduling delay due to the Challenger disaster, TUBSAT will be launched in a NASA space shuttle. Its orbit will possibly be 350 kilometres out, and, assuming 16 circuits per day, the spacecraft will be operational for 12 months before it burns up in the atmosphere.

Assuming the orbit envisaged, the ground station at the university will, on the average, have five minutes of contact with the satellite about five times a day. During these periods it can receive the satellite's signals and transmit control commands. In the construction of the high-power transmitter required, the Berlin scientists are being assisted by Stuttgart University. They are also receiving help from the space industry, although the project is directed in Berlin. One of the reasons for scheduling the launch of the satellite for the end of 1987, according to Renner, is to give the team a deadline. The other is to have "a Berlin" in space for the city's 750th anniversary that year.

For the time being, however, the hexagonal body is still on the ground. Its diameter and length

Maradona can perhaps be accused of being rather too prone to throwing himself to the ground at the merest hint of physical contact, and writhing Hamlet-like, but he is hardly alone in this. Indeed, for the last eight years he has been the target of every defender whose inclinations lean towards brutal physical assault. His old-age may be one of riches, but it will also be one of extremely arthritic knees and ankles. It is the "stop-at-all-costs" defender, and we have seen many of these in the past month, who deserve the label "cheat."

But no: "Cheater" he officially is. Which takes me back to England in the 1960s, (a period when England not only won the World Cup but also managed occasionally to beat India at cricket), and a player called Geoff Hurst. I am thinking not so much of his controversial goal in the 1966 final, (and how German observers must be smiling at the current furore in the English press), but more to a league game in 1968, when West Ham beat Sunderland 8-0. Hurst scoring six goals. Now Hurst was a good, slow to anger, seldom if ever in trouble. But after the game he cheerfully admitted that his second goal had put into the net by his hand. The press reaction at the time amounted to: "Ho ho, our Geoff, what a lad." But as Hurst pointed out, he had lost enough valid goals to bad decisions, so the odd one in his favour merely evened up the score. Anyway, what was Maradona supposed to do? Contradict the referee and linesman? That is called dissent, and is rewarded with a yellow card.

The current Fleet Street ranting have been led by news empire of Rupert "The Dirty Digger" Murdoch. On the morning of the game his paper "The Sunday Times" had, as its lead story, allegations that the 1978 Argentine World Cup winning team bribed Peru to lose a vital game, and were also as high as kites on stimulants throughout the tournament. It is an eight-year old story about a football match really, the most important news story of last weekend? Was it, for that matter, in accord with the spirit of the request to play down the 1982 Falklands conflict and let soccer rule this day? On Monday Murdoch's "The Sun" joined the fray. Now, a sorry little dog should know about cheating. One of the few genuine heroes of that South Atlantic war was a young Paratrooper sergeant called Ian McKay. He gave his life in order to save several of the men in his platoon, and his selfless action earned him a Victoria Cross. Shortly after the award, The Sun printed a world-exclusive interview with his widow. It later transpired, however, that the paper had never talked to the

woman. What had happened was that the reporter had gone around the Sun's offices, asking female members of the staff what their reactions would be if their husband had been killed and awarded a posthumous VC. In this context, cheating is a charitable verdict.

What, I hear you asking, has all this got to do with television? Well, for a start, both newspapers and TV are media, and both can be guilty of distortion and misrepresentation. But TV has a more serious charge to answer. The present tournament has, on the whole, been exciting and full of honest endeavour. But too often teams writhed early on, and happily compromised for a draw. The primary reason for this was that they had to play in the pressure-cooker heat of midday in Mexico. (On average players lost seven pints of body-liquid and four pounds of body weight each game). Why was this torture necessary? So that European TV companies could put games out at peak-time, and that advertisers could get maximum exposure. The people who were cheated by this cynical arrangement were primarily the players, restricted in their opportunity to give of their best in the supreme moment of their careers, and ultimately the public, served-up with a watered (sweated) down version of what they had every right to expect.

Anyway, there are only two more games to go. So let us see what each day has to offer.

Tonight
Duty Free (8:30): This is really a very funny and finely-observed comedy. Its central theme could be taken as man/woman's capacity for self-deception. First there is David, the eternal optimist, convinced of his own magnetism and irresistibility, when in reality he is a rather sorry failure. His secret love, Linda, exists for ever in a Mills And Boon romantic world. It is not for nothing that their great love affair has yet to progress beyond a quick kiss snatched behind the beach huts. Sordid reality would be altogether too much for either of them. Linda's husband Robert is, on the surface, very straightforward and down-to-earth. But as she struts around in his uniform of blazer and silk cravat, completely convinced of the superiority of the English, she, by extensions, himself, (did you hear his last week on the subject of Germans?), he shows himself to be forever living in cloud cuckoo land. David's wife Amy does at least have one foot in the real world, but she is so desirous to believe her husband in his postoperative invention that the truth hurts her every time. Tonight David selects a rather thick fellow guest to deliver his love letters. No prizes for guessing who the ultimate dunce turns out to be.

Sunday
Charlie and Company (8:30): I have to admit that I have yet to catch this, but anything that features the sultry Gladys Knight can't be all bad. This week Charlie loans a colleague some money and then is too embarrassed to ask for it back.
Argentina v. West Germany (9:00): Well, here we are: this is what the last four weeks have been about. Forgetting about Maradona's first goal against England, one of the abiding memories of this competition will be the superb, stunning, individual solo-effort he conjured up for the second. And, bless me, if he didn't go and do it again against Belgium. Considering the way his team-mates squandered chances laid on by Maradona both against Paraguay and Belgium, the little man could be forgiven if he decides to go it alone from now on. Maradona, of course, is not the whole of the Argentine team. They have a very lively complimentary attack in Valdano and Pasculli, a mobile and fluid midfield centred around Burruchaga, and a tight and mean defence, in which the piratical Batista predominates. However, if

France v. Belgium (9:00): The predominant sound of the last two weeks has been that of idols falling from a great height and shattering into many pieces. First there was the Soviets, then Denmark. They were followed by Brazil, and Spain, undone by lowly Belgium. The latest in this fall from eminence were France, not least because their game against Germany was marred by so much crude tackling from both teams. France were obviously drawn by their superb contest against Brazil, as well as by a pitch made heavy by a recent downpour. As for Belgium, well they got as far as they could reasonably expect. (Maybe even a bit further). This, the losing semi-finalists playing for third and fourth place, is always rather a sad occasion, but at least it should give us the chance for one last look at Jean Tigana, for me one of the players of the tournament.

Monday
Growing Pains (8:30): The daughter writes an article for her school newspaper, but it does not go down well.
Murder, She Wrote (10:20): A tennis star gets car-bombed, and an investigator into the incident gets rubbed out. Fearless Fletcher steps into the breach.
Wait, what about the rest of the week, or 9:00 on Monday, come to that? The latter is devoted to the New Programme Cycle, which starts on Tuesday. And I will return on that day to reveal all the varied delights JTV have in store for the next three months.

What a long hard month it has been indeed. All those games, all those goals, all those tantrums and multi-coloured cards, and moreover all those sleepless nights and weary-eyed mornings. Now that it is nearly over, a word of advice: You know that strange, shadowy figure, that has been flitting in and out of your periphery vision these last few weeks? The one that looks vaguely familiar, but you're not sure why? After Sunday's game, take a closer look. It is probably your wife, who has suffered meals either bolted in five minutes or left to go cold, and who has patiently maintained a Trappist-like silence throughout. Treat her. She deserves it.



It's that man again, flying high and heading for gold. Sunday, 9.00

that defence relaxes as they did in the final quarter against England, they could be in trouble. West Germany does not boast a very distinguished team, especially when considered against some of their superb squads in the past. Also, apart from the odd flash, much of their early form in this competition was laboured and drudge-like. However, against France they did show some fine and coordinated form for long periods at a stretch, and if there is a time for things to come together and click, it is surely now. Also, it is foolhardy to in any way underestimate a team that is making its fourth final appearance in six competitions. However, I believe Argentina will prove too strong for them, essentially because of Maradona, who makes a very balanced team into potential World Champions. Finally, I think it would be good for the game if they won, since they have shown the positive aspects of the game more consistently in this competition than have Germany.

The Master (10:45, depending on extra time): Somewhere in the desert wastes of America sits an orphanage, on land that is rich in uranium. An evil gang uses arson and other underhand means to try to force them to leave. The Master and his pupil appear on the horizon, and civilisation is safe again.

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Letter from Cairo

By Anthony McDermott
The Middle East International

RETURNING to Cairo after over three years is much like seeing an old friend again, with whom contact has been sparse. Any changes? Fatter or thinner? Conversation more articulate? As welcoming? It must be said that Cairo carries its enormous and spreading girth quite well. The new flyover in Zamalek has made a dramatic impact on the flow of traffic in the centre of town — with the notable exception of the midday commuter crush in Tahrir Square (which still carries plaintive signs calling it Midan Anwar Sadat). Yet the manic hooting has not abated and the flyovers mean that the government has capitalised to the car-owning minority — over 600,000 of them out of Greater Cairo's population of around 13 million.

In its own way, Cairo is more articulate. Compared with times past, the local telephone service is a dream, making it less necessary to leg it across the city for appointments or to sit seething and sweaty in cars and taxis, inching forwards to be late for meetings. Talking of taxis, it may be that the combination of troubled economic times and the odd stern word from the tourism ministry has had some effect; there is now less hassle over grossly-inflated fares. From time to time even the metres work. Egypt's harder times are not immediately apparent. There are fewer beggars in the streets. But journey southwards by train to Ma'adi and from the new but crammed trains you can see squalid and crowded houses and areas where the rubbish is not removed and which eat into valuable arable land.

Some evergreens remain. Like the insubstantial Gamaica Bar (remember that Egyptians pronounce the "j" hard and you'll get the exotic name), and, for the football aficionados, the clothes shop called Denis Law in glittering Shawarbi Street. But "terrorism" has chased the tourist away and so the big hotels are offering deals that make the going tough for the down-town three-star hotels. This was the complaint of my host, the manager of the Cosmopolitan Hotel, just off Kasr el-Nil. Built in Victorian style, it opened in 1923, was nationalised under Nasser and then between 1979 and 1982 was refurbished to the tune of £4.4m and, through a rare attack of inspiration by the state-owned hotels company, had its old style chandeliers, period decorations and pastel-shaded painted glass windows restored.

In Garden City, the fear of terrorism is visible. The wall around the American embassy sprawl is now much higher, with poles on the pavement to deter car bombers and windows onto the main street bricked up. Nearby, the outer redoubt of the British embassy was also being strengthened with railings on top of a new wall. And the security police conscripts, who shook the government by rioting and ransacking hotels in February, are back, lounging around in tight uniforms for hours outside embassies.

Parts of the city have become very unsightly — in the interests of progress. The construction of the metro and the enormous sewage system has turned areas of Tahrir into what looks like open cast mining, partially blocked Ramsis Street and made the crowded area around the railway station into a chaotic maze between boarded-off sites, hotels in the ground and huge cranes. And the romantics who had hoped that the charming opera house built in 1869, where Verdi missed his deadline for Aida to celebrate the opening of the Suez Canal and which was burned down nearly a decade ago in sight of one of the main fire stations, might be rebuilt, can forget it. The site is now a four-storey car park, and the Japanese are going to build a new opera house and cultural centre elsewhere.

Given the stresses of the last nine months — Achille Lauro, student demonstrations and the conscript riots — I had expected overt signs of tension. It may have been deceptive, but there were few, if any. It was rare to see bearded and white-robed Muslim fundamentalists in the main streets — unlike a few years ago. But while modesty of dress for women was apparent, many had decorated their modified wimples extravagantly. Rare indeed was a face completely covered except for a slit for the eyes, and those concealed behind dark glasses, and the hands prudishly begloved. A misleading impression, I was told, as the Islamic movements are operating deftly behind the scenes, especially in the universities.

Perhaps the most lasting impression of change in the old friend, whose welcome was as warm as ever, whose insouciance and incompetence were infuriatingly unchanged and whose smiling patience seemed endless, is its concern about the future. People have bared of Mubarak's honest industriousness and relief from Sadat's dramatics has worn off. My favourite money-changer put it this way: "Mubarak lacks presence." Nostalgia for whatever Nasser may or may not have represented is on the rise. In contrast to the usual optimism or confidence of muddling through — and in spite of free flow of information and a plethora of opposition newspapers — conversations were all too frequently punctuated by questions of concern. Is the economy in as bad a shape as they say? Are the Americans really backing Abu Ghazala against Mubarak? What do you think is going to happen? How do you think things will look in a year? This was the most unsettling aspect of our reunion after these years apart.

A do-it-yourself satellite in the making

By Udo Schwarzer

AFTER fourteen years with ESA, Dr. Udo Renner, left the organisation in 1985 to take up a professorship at the Institute of Air and Space Travel run by Berlin Technical University. He soon surprised his students by telling them that they were to build a satellite themselves. And they are doing just that.

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For the time being, however, the hexagonal body is still on the ground. Its diameter and length

are about 50 centimetres, and it can take no more than 35 kilograms payload. Here, the Berlin satellite makers — Renner, two assistants, student tutors, and students — are thinking of experiments whose chances of being taken on board other space vehicles would be weak, for instance the work of school boys and girls taking part in the *Jugend 1 forsch* competition (Youth on Research), or experiments which require lengthy observation. A group of biologists, for instance, intend to use TUBSAT for a study of the route taken by certain migrating birds. This would not only permit conclusions to be drawn from the departure and arrival sites of these birds with respect of their flight route; but the spacecraft would also make it possible, using transmitters attached to specific birds, to keep constant track of the bird's position.

Before the flight coordinates of birds are studied, however, the data pertaining to the satellite itself will have to be sufficiently precise. Only then will it be able to travel through space on a controlled orbit once it has left the shuttle. TUBSAT, released from the shuttle, will be given a final fillip by NASA, as it were, by means of a repellant spring. Nevertheless, the Berlin satellite builders will still have to hit upon some idea how to steer and control a space vehicle which derives an average power supply of a mere 15 watts from its solar cells; other than that the spacecraft will not carry any fuel. Its position is to be stabilised with the aid of a flywheel and extendable fins, making use of the "headwind" to save energy.

With TUBSAT Renner hopes to be able to produce the prototype of a satellite which later will cost "less than a million marks in mass production."

Nature conservation a growing force in Jordan

By Leila Deeb

Reuter

SHAUMARI, Jordan — The Arabian oryx, wiped out in Jordan by indiscriminate hunting 65 years ago, thrives again in a well-guarded reserve at Shaumari, near the border with Saudi Arabia.

At least 60 of the black-and-white antelope, renowned for their three-foot horns and soft black eyes, roam freely with other rare species in a 22 sq. km reserve set up 11 years ago by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

With international assistance, the society has also created havens for endangered flora and fauna at

the nearby Azraq wetland reserve and the scenic Mujib valley reserve, through which Amman River flows to the Dead Sea.

"Conservation means that every generation should utilize nature in a way that future generations can also benefit from," society president Anis Mouasher told Reuters.

The oryx herd, built up from specimens presented by the Gulf States of Qatar and the Arabian oryx world herd trustees, lives with striped hyena, Syrian wild asses and a pair of imported blue-necked ostriches.

The ostrich, once used as a beast of burden by bedouin, vanished from the area early this century.

Mouasher said several ostrich eggs were laid recently at Shaumari, but it was not yet known if they were fertile.

The smaller Azraq wetlands, recognised since 1977 as a migration centre for water fowl and other birds, also contains fish, reptiles, Asiatic jackals, wolves and jerboa — small African desert rodents with long hind legs and mighty jumping powers.

Ibex, badgers and chirping mountain wheatear birds are found at the Mujib valley reserve, a spot like a miniature Grand Canyon, with flowing hot springs, which also shelters rare species of orchid and palm trees.

Mouasher said the society had

managed to have conservation included in Jordan's five-year development plan, and more reserves were planned as funds became available.

The government was also preparing legislation to protect wildlife and habitats.

He said much emphasis was being laid on building up rare animal species at Shaumari. More than 50 Arabian oryx had been bred there since it was re-introduced in 1978.

At least 134 species of birds migrating between east Africa, Europe and Asia can be seen in the existing reserves, which also have more than 130 species of plants.

Japan's import campaign turns foreign goods into a joke

By Eric Hall

Reuter

TOKYO — First there was a sense of disbelief, then a few sniggers, and soon the whole Tokyo cinema audience was laughing at the government promotional film asking Japanese to buy more imported goods.

The film was urging the nation which dominates the world market in cars, electronics, ships and steel, to buy a foreign-made cat door, a child's rubber trampoline and a manual carrot grater to help reduce its \$50 billion trade surplus.

The well-intentioned campaign by Japan's authorities to persuade citizens to buy more imports is in danger of turning the idea of foreign products into a joke in the eyes of the man-in-the-street.

The government is well aware that continued good relations with its major trading partners rely heavily on cutting the huge trade imbalance.

Unfortunately, its efforts so far to promote imports have been ill-advised and have, sometimes seemed downright perverse.

A now-famous official import shopping list — published by Prime Minister Yasuhiro

Nakase himself — exhorted Japanese to buy such imported goods as a fondue set, a nation which rarely entertains at home, and an oven thermometer, although few families have ovens.

There are several major hurdles to encouraging more imports into Japan. Some are a Japanese problem, some are up to the foreign importer to solve.

Most important is the isolationist Japanese consumer culture which distrusts imported workmanship.

Ironically, just as Westerners sneered at low-quality Japanese mass-produced goods 40 years ago, the Japanese are now conscious of quality control and turn their noses up at Western goods.

This attitude has gone so far as to make some Japanese believe that Europe and America have slipped back 200 years.

One helpful housewife in Tokyo offered to lend me her hand-held Sony video camera to show people in Britain — "they may not have seen such things."

Japanese shoppers do prefer a whole range of foreign high-priced, brand-name, luxury items from French brandy to Italian fashion. But these are

bought largely for snob value and appear only in a limited number of big city stores and boutiques.

All too often, the imported, mass-produced consumer durables and eatables which end up in ordinary Japanese shops do not stand comparison with the home product because they are badly made or badly marketed.

"I could give you a long list of foreign products that were poorly suited for the Japanese market," said Isugio Kusajima, senior director at the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), at a symposium.

These range from trying to sell left-hand cars in a right-hand drive market to marketing fruit juice cartons that do not fit standard Japanese refrigerators.

JETRO has made a big effort to promote foreign goods through import fairs and business events.

"A friend of mine has suggested that JETRO should change its name to JITRO, or the Japan Import Trade Promotion Organisation," Kusajima said.

However, the authorities are in many ways encouraging a growing trade siege mentality in Japan by appealing to consumers' patriotism, rather than trying to

dismantle real or imagined prejudices against foreign goods.

Last year Nakase urged Japanese each to buy \$100 worth of imports to bring down the trade surplus to help halt foreign criticism.

One of the latest import promotion posters issued by the trade ministry and two semi-official trade organisations features the 15th-century painter Botticelli's picture of a windswept, nude Venus riding the waves on a clam shell above two white doves.

The ministry claims it represents foreign culture and goods being blown toward Japan. The caption reads: "Let's import more. Good products. Good Relations."

Thus when the consumer does consider buying a foreign import, the desire to help Japan out of a tight spot now has to jostle with a cool appreciation of the item's real quality and value.

Signs are this kind of patriotism is not too popular. At a representative major department store only 20 minutes train ride out of central Tokyo, perhaps no more than a dozen articles from the thousands on display were foreign brands.

New chief cracks down on Athens motorists

By Granville Watts

Reuter

ATHENS — Michael Desipris, a young Greek soldier, borrowed his father's car to drive to an Athens bus station while returning from home leave.

Unfortunately Michael left the car in a no-parking area and when his father went to collect it the vehicle was there all right — but minus its number plates.

Police had removed the plates as part of a new crackdown on motorising offences in the Greek capital which has daunting traffic and pollution problems.

The father was unable to use the car for ten days, after which he was allowed to reclaim his number plates on payment of a 532 fine.

When a former general, Antonis Drosos, took over as public order minister last April he vowed to remove some of the anarchic elements in a city which saw much of the birth of Western civilisation.

Motorists, frustrated by the lack of parking space, have become increasingly bold, parking their vehicles solidly along sidewalks so that pedestrians are forced onto the highways.

The situation has become so bad in some central squares such as in the fashionable Kolonaki area that cars are often triple-parked overnight leaving hardly enough room for moving traffic.

It has become a common sight to see police trucks at dawn in Kolonaki dragging away the offending cars and even more frequent to see officials unscrewing number plates, a punishment which is less costly to administer.

Private cars in Athens have increased from 570,000 in 1980 to 798,000 last year, and as the city of four million has no subway system long lines of fume-emitting

buses add to the traffic chaos and pollution.

In an effort to curb the enthusiasm of every car-owner to drive into the centre of the city, the authorities operate a system whereby cars with numbers ending in odd and even figures may enter the central area on alternate days.

The crackdown has been applied to offenders against this law too and a points system means that after a certain number of offences a motorist's licence is withdrawn and he can apply for a new one after three months.

Motorists and motorcycle riders who had become accustomed to police looking the other way also been pulled up in increasing numbers if they enter no-traffic mail such as the shopping mall in Voukourstiou or the tourist-packed old Plaka region beneath the Acropolis.

For some reason — some say it is the use of marble dust in the road-making — Athens streets are among the most glassy and slippery you will find anywhere.

Thus fast-moving cars at traffic lights and cornering at speed on these polished highways produce something that can only be called "the Athens squeal."

Added to this is the love of Athenian men for motor-cycles without silencers.

When the squeal joins the motor-cycle roar even the Acropolis shudders and noise from traffic and aircraft is believed to have played a part in the crumbling of parts of the rocky height which are still being shored up.

Man has been using the Acropolis since Neolithic times in 5,000 B.C. but it seems to have been in no greater danger than in the age of the motor car, whose exhaust fumes are also having a dangerous effect on the soft white marble of the Parthenon.

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World Court denounces U.S. support for contra rebels

THE HAGUE (R) — The World court ruled Friday that the United States broke international law through its support for "contra" rebels in Nicaragua and its mining of Nicaraguan harbours.

In a series of majority decisions the United Nations body also upheld a Nicaraguan claim that the United States was liable to pay reparations, saying it would fix the sum later.

The Reagan administration had boycotted the case, calling it a propaganda sham, and said it would ignore any verdict or order against it.

The 15-judge court, formally called the International Court of Justice, has no powers of enforcement but its verdict was expected to embarrass President Reagan and give ammunition to U.S. opponents of his Nicaragua policy.

Earlier this week the U.S. government narrowly won the backing of the House of Representatives for a new \$100 million aid package for the contras, fighting to overthrow Nicaragua's left-wing Sandinista government.

The Nicaraguan suit, filed in April 1984, alleged that Washington broke the U.N. charter, the Organisation of American States charter, a bilateral treaty and fundamental laws.

The court ruled in a series of 12 judgements by 12 to three and 14 to one majorities that there had been breaches of the 1956 bilateral treaty and of customary international law forbidding the use of force and intervention in the affairs of another state.

The court also ruled that the U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua and a ban on Nicaraguan shipping entering U.S. ports was in breach of the bilateral treaty of friendship. The

United States renounced the treaty but the court found that it had failed to give the required one year's written notice.

The United States fought the case until it lost an appeal to the court to declare the issue beyond its jurisdiction. It then withdrew and said it would no longer recognise the court's authority in any matter unless it chose otherwise.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Manuel A. Escoto, who was in court for the ruling, told reporters it was "a great victory for Nicaragua, a great victory for peace."

"The law was behind us on every point," he said. He said his government's next move could involve fresh steps against the United States at the United Nations in New York.

During hearings on the court's jurisdiction in the case, the court rejected a U.S. argument that its actions were justified by the right of "collective self-defence" of states threatened by another.

The main dissenting votes were by judges from Britain and Japan and Judge Stephen Schwebel of the United States. None was in the minority on every judgement.

The other judges were from India, Poland, Argentina, Nigeria, Italy, Brazil, Senegal, Algeria, China, Norway and two from France. The panel usually includes a Soviet judge but none took part in the judgement because the Soviet member retired and was replaced during the hearings.

The United States was not officially represented at Friday's session but a diplomat from the American embassy was in the

audience. He declined to comment.

Most of the rulings turned on customary international law and a state's duties not to interfere in the internal affairs of, violate the sovereignty of or use force against another.

The key judgement on support for the contras said that the court "decides that the United States of America, by training, arming, equipping, financing and supplying the contra forces or otherwise encouraging, supporting and aiding military and paramilitary activities in and against Nicaragua, has acted against the Republic of Nicaragua, in breach of its obligation under customary international law not to intervene in the affairs of another state."

Judges Schwebel of the United States, Shigeru Oda of Japan and Sir Robert Jennings of Britain voted against this finding but were outnumbered 12 to three.

While finding the United States liable to pay reparations for breaches of customary law and the 1956 treaty, the court threw out as unprecedented a Nicaraguan claim for an interim damages payment of \$370 million.

U.S. approves contra aid

On Wednesday the U.S. House of Representatives vote drew praise from the president and criticism from Nicaragua.

The 221-209 vote marked a dramatic shift in sentiment in the House which in 1984 helped cut off military aid to the rebels who are fighting the Sandinista government.

Mr. Reagan, in Las Vegas on his way to a California rally, expressed delight at the result of a long and often bruising battle with opponents in the Democrat-dominated House.

"It's only round one, but, boy oh boy, what a round," he said. "This represents a giant bipartisan effort... we hope our coalition will hold together and we can get these freedom fighters the assistance they need."

The Nicaraguan embassy issued a statement saying the vote moved Washington closer to sending U.S. troops to Central America and represented a significant escalation of U.S. involvement in Central America.

While other votes on the issue could still be taken, this ballot — on an amendment to the 1987 military construction bill — was considered the showdown vote.

The proposal would provide \$30 million in non-lethal aid and \$70 million in military aid for the rebels fighting the Sandinistas. The House, which is led by opposition Democrats, rejected a similar proposal last March 22-210, while the Republican-led Senate approved it 53-47.

Wednesday's result was unclear until the last moment and gave Mr. Reagan a far larger victory than most congressmen had expected.

To help pass the bill a Republican representative suffering from cancer, George O'Brien, attended the session to vote.

House sentiment was turned around in large part through lobbying by Mr. Reagan, who invested considerable personal prestige in the battle for rebel aid, which he has made a major foreign policy goal of his second term.

Several Congress members said they voted for the proposal because Reagan supporters had added \$300 million in additional economic aid for Central American countries to the package.

Nicaragua tightens emergency

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's left-wing government, vowing to enforce its state of emergency with greater vigour, has shut down indefinitely the country's only opposition newspaper, La Prensa.

The state of emergency has been applied at times with too much flexibility, President Daniel Ortega said in a statement broadcast Thursday night after the shutdown was ordered.

"We cannot go on allowing traitors to carry on their shameful activities with impunity," he said, adding that emergency rules originally imposed in March 1982 and strengthened last year would be enforced with the utmost rigour.

Earlier, La Prensa, which has been a target of severe censorship in recent months, was ordered in a note from the Interior Ministry to close immediately for an indefinite period.

The daily's executive president, Carlos Hollman, said no reason was given for the closure of the only Nicaraguan newspaper critical of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

He described the government action as an unwarranted punishment for giving prominence to comments by President Reagan.

This was part of the coverage of Wednesday night's approval by the U.S. House of Representatives of \$100 million in new aid for anti-Sandinista rebels.

"We are going to use every civilised means — if there are any left in this country — to appeal against this decision, though I don't imagine it will have much effect," Mr. Hollman told Reuters.

La Prensa is Nicaragua's oldest newspaper. It also attracted the hostility of the late U.S.-supported dictator Anastasio Somoza, ousted by the Sandinistas in a popular revolution in 1979.

Since then, the paper, described by Western observers as conservative, has been briefly closed on five occasions. It has often failed to go to print, complaining of too much censorship by the government.

But Sandinista officials suggested privately that the paper's closure this time was a more serious event, saying they believed the government wanted it to serve as an example to those it considered accomplices in U.S.-backed aggression.

Mr. Ortega said the approval of \$100 million in aid for the rebels had created new threats and had changed the internal and international perspective.

U.S., New Zealand fail to settle ships row

MANILA (R) — The United States and New Zealand Friday failed to settle their dispute over access of warships to New Zealand ports.

"We part company as friends, but we part company," Secretary of State George Shultz told reporters in what appeared to be a suggestion that there was nothing more to be said unless Wellington changed its policy of refusing access to anything nuclear.

A senior U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, confirmed that. "The ball is in New Zealand's court," he told Reuters.

Mr. Shultz and Prime Minister David Lange said they had made no progress on resolving the row that erupted in February last year when Wellington barred a U.S. destroyer because it carried nuclear weapons.

Mr. Lange told reporters after the 40 minute meeting there would be no change in policy and also suggested nothing could be done.

"It was a determination that we could not have some state of animosity between us... it is a very practical solution to what has been a very long period," he said.

Mr. Shultz said the U.S. policy of refusing to confirm or deny the presence of nuclear weapons on its ships was essential and Mr. Lange added it had been decided at the meeting, which ran 15 minutes longer than scheduled, that the two police were irreconcilable.

The clash resulted in the virtual end of U.S. military cooperation and Washington has said it would "review" New Zealand's role in the ANZUS defence alliance, which groups the two countries with Australia, when Wellington passes pending legislation to put its policy on the statute book.

Washington and Canberra intend, however, to maintain ANZUS on a bilateral basis, and Mr. Lange said the pact would not be terminated.

"ANZUS as a treaty persists. New Zealand will not withdraw, the United States will not withdraw, and Australia will not withdraw. That is clearly the position," he said.

The United States, and Mr. Shultz in particular, made a major issue of the row, making it an example of what Washington expects from an ally in fear that if it acquiesced to Mr. Lange, others might follow.

Waldheim faces further controversy over thesis

THE HAGUE (R) — Austria's controversial new President Kurt Waldheim Friday faced further political embarrassment after the Luxembourg government announced it had been given copies of Dr. Waldheim's degree thesis.

Luxembourg's Foreign Minister Jacques Poos told journalists the thesis, written by Dr. Waldheim in Vienna in 1943, called for inclusion of the Benelux — Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg — and Switzerland in the "Greater Reich."

The "Greater Reich" or "Greater German Reich" was part of the ideology of the Nazi Party, which called for expansion of Germany to give its people more room.

Mr. Poos said the government, which had been given the document by the Dutch ambassador in Vienna who represents Luxembourg's diplomatic interests there, still had to examine it thoroughly.

But he added the thesis, written by Dr. Waldheim when he was 25, had to be taken seriously.

"You cannot say this was just a youthful sin," Mr. Poos said.

Mr. Poos and Luxembourg

Prime Minister Jacques Santer said they would consider what action the Grand Duchy should take over the document. But Mr. Santer ruled out a withdrawal of Luxembourg's diplomatic representation in Vienna.

"Waldheim was elected president of the Republic (of Austria) and as such he represents Austria," Mr. Santer said.

It would be unfair to the people of Austria to withdraw diplomatic representation because of criticism of Dr. Waldheim's past, Mr. Santer added.

Dr. Waldheim, who was elected Austrian president earlier this month, was awarded a doctorate in law in 1944 from the Consular Academy of Vienna University.

He has been widely accused of belonging to two Nazi organisations and of having served under a German general who was later hanged for war crimes.

Dr. Waldheim, the former secretary-general of the United Nations, has denied the allegations.

But Mr. Poos said several ambassadors were likely to be absent through illness or holiday on the date of the inauguration. He would not elaborate.

Two bombs explode in Spain's Basque country

BILBAO, Spain (Agencies) — Two people were injured Friday when one bomb exploded at a construction site and another on the doorstep of an American multinational company, said police in this Basque city.

Police said the first blast occurred shortly before 1 a.m. (2300 GMT) when police responded to a telephone call saying that a bomb had been planted outside the Bilbao offices of the 3M Co., an American concern.

A national policeman searching for the bomb when it exploded was hit by flying glass, but not seriously injured, police said.

A second explosion occurred at 8 a.m. (0600 GMT) at a road construction site in the town of Portugalete, just north of Bilbao on Spain's northeast coast.

The bomb, planted inside a piece of roadbuilding equipment, went off when a worker started the machine. The worker lost part of an arm in the blast, police said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the blasts. Police said they believed the blasts were the work of the ETA, the Basque separatist organisation.

ETA, which stands for Basque Homeland and Liberty, seeks independence from Spain for the three-province northern Basque country.

Meanwhile Spanish police Friday were holding a 25-year-old man with a Spanish passport for questioning about Thursday's bomb blast at Madrid's Barajas Airport, officials said.

A government statement said the bomb was placed inside a suitcase and went off as it was about to be loaded on a packed El Al flight bound for Tel Aviv. It said three people were seriously injured and four were hurt.

Airport Director Arturo Perez put the number of those slightly injured at 11.

Mr. Perez said that the man detained by the police had a Spanish passport.

The bomb Thursday at the El Al terminal shattered glass doors and windows. Passengers fled in terror.

"Nearly all the nearby check-out counters were damaged," said Israeli passenger Mullah Oren after debarking in Tel Aviv, where flight 396 finally arrived after a six-hour delay.

Eight of the 13 people injured were taken to a local hospital. Hospital officials said two people were hospitalised while the others were treated and released.

The suitcase belonged to the last passenger to check in for the Tel Aviv-bound flight.

Ireland rejects divorce by wide voting margin

DUBLIN (Agencies) — The people of the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Republic have rejected a proposal to allow divorce by a wide margin in a referendum, officials of the ruling Fine Gael Party said Friday.

With continuing in most of the constituencies completed, the country had voted by roughly 60-40 against a proposal to remove a ban on divorce from the constitution and to permit it in cases where a marriage has broken down for at least five years.

The Irish Republic is 93 per cent Catholic.

In urban areas, the vote in the referendum was roughly 60-40 against. In rural areas the split was 70-30 against. In some areas it was as high as 12 votes against to one in favour.

The turn-out among the 2.4 million electorate was about 55 per cent.

The result appeared to bear out the most recent opinion poll only two days ago, which showed a dramatic swing from a small majority in favour of divorce a few weeks ago to a 10 per cent majority against.

The coalition government, which campaigned strongly for divorce, has maintained that the defeat of the proposal would not damage its standing and has said that it had made good on its election promise to take the issue to the country.

Earlier Friday the Irish national radio (RTÉ) said defeat was a "virtual certainty."

Initial estimates said about half of Ireland's 2.4 million eligible voters cast ballots in a keenly fought referendum which tested the loyalty of the 97-per cent Roman Catholic country to its church's teachings.

The radio said the two constituencies most likely to

support the amendment had not produced a 2-1 majority. The port town of Dun Laoghaire and nearby Dublin South had produced, respectively, 61 per cent and 55 per cent yes votes.

The no vote was ahead in Cork South Central, the constituency of Foreign Minister Peter Barry, who headed his party's campaign for a yes vote, the radio said.

In Dublin North, the no vote was ahead 52-48, the radio said. In Galway, on the west coast, the vote was running at 3-1 against divorce, said Radio Telefís Eireann (RTE). It said heavy no votes were shaping up in the Mayo, Tipperary, and Cavan and Monaghan districts.

"I think that on the returns so far the referendum is heading for defeat. I think a very heavy defeat in the country," said John Cooney, political correspondent of the Irish Times and author of a book on the divorce problem.

All the prospects overnight have been that the Dublin vote will not be sufficient to counterweight any vote in the country," Cooney said. "I think at this stage the government is bracing itself for what extent the defeat might be."

Results were expected to be so close that neither the Divorce Action Group nor the rival Anti-Divorce Campaign Group would speculate on the outcome.

Ray Kavanagh, secretary general of the Labour Party said: "We are still reasonably optimistic that it's winnable."

The divorce ban, part of the 1937 constitution, can only be removed by referendum. The government, worried by a poll that predicted a 55-45 defeat of the reform it initiated nine weeks ago, issued impassioned last-minute appeals for a yes vote.

Harare fails to produce accused whites in court

HARARE (R) — The Zimbabwe government failed Friday to produce two white customs officers in court and their defence lawyer accused the government of setting itself above the courts.

Judge Barnabas Samatta, who on Wednesday ordered Minister of State for Security Emmerson Mnangagwa to produce John Austin, 36, and Kenneth Harper, 43, in court Friday, said he "reluctantly" adjourned the case until Monday.

He had also ordered Mr. Mnangagwa to give reasons why the detention of Mr. Austin and Mr. Harper, who were freed by the supreme court on Tuesday and immediately re-arrested, was not illegal.

Defence Lawyer Adrian De Bourbon accused Mr. Mnangagwa of deliberately

flouting court orders by not producing Austin, chief customs investigation officer, and Harper, controller of customs.

"The state continues to ignore court rulings... regrettably in Zimbabwe today, the state considers itself above the courts," he said, asking Mr. Samatta to order Mr. Mnangagwa personally to pay the cost of Friday's hearing. The judge reserved his ruling.

State counsel Stephen Mafara had asked for an adjournment to allow the government more time to prepare its case against the two customs officers whom it accuses of giving information to South Africa enabling it to mount raids on African National Congress guerrilla targets in Harare last month.

Teenage astronauts to visit Moscow

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is sending 10 teenage members of the young astronaut programme to the Soviet Union in October, but it is denying a real astronaut the right to take part in next month's "goodwill games" in Moscow.

The young astronauts will be the Soviet Union for two weeks under a new exchange agreement that calls for a similar delegation from the Soviet young cosmonauts to visit the United States in December. The students will be 14 to 16 years old.

At the same time, however, the State Department said Vance D. Brand — a two-time space shuttle commander — cannot attend the mini-Olympics because they are "a purely private corporate venture."

Brand and his two American colleagues on the historic linkup of U.S. and Soviet spacecraft in July 1975, had been invited to take part in the July 5 opening ceremonies for the games being put together by Atlanta Broadcaster Ted Turner. Former astronaut Donald K. Slayton and retired air force Brig. Gen.

Thomas P. Stafford are going.

"Vance was invited to the games by the Turner Broadcasting System," said NASA spokesman Peter Smith. "As we always do in things like this, we consulted with state. We are advised the goodwill games are a purely private corporate venture arising from an agreement between TBS and the Soviet government."

"Consistent with overall NASA policy, we advised Mr. Brand it does not appear to be appropriate for him to participate in the games."

Last year, Cosmonauts Alexei Leonov and Valeri Kubysov came to the United States for a 10-year anniversary celebration, and Slayton and Stafford accompanied a congressional delegation to the Soviet Union in October. Brand did not go along.

The three astronauts and their Soviet counterparts trained extensively in each other's country for the flight.

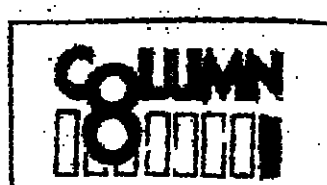
The games will be the first major competition between American and Soviet athletes since the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal. The 1980 games in

Moscow were boycotted by the United States because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In 1984, the Soviets bowed out of the games in Los Angeles, claiming security problems.

The young astronaut exchange was announced by Charles Z. Wick, director of the United States Information Service, at a news conference. The delegation will be chosen in a competition among those in the 14- to 16-year-old age bracket in the organisation, which has 250,000 members across the country.

Wick said the exchange will enable "young people of both countries to get to know each other better." He said it will be beneficial "on the theory that when people know each other... it should promote reduction of tension."

He added that if that happens, "maybe their leaders will follow." The young astronauts programme introduced two years ago by President Reagan, is business-financed and designed to interest students ages 6 to 16 in mathematics and science.



Jobless man's plans land him in prison

SYDNEY (R) — A New Zealander well on his way to becoming a millionaire through Australian unemployment benefits was jailed Friday for eight years for fraud. Wayne Patterson, 27, who only arrived in Australia in 1983, pleaded guilty to using 53 fictitious names and 50 post office box addresses to claim 380,000 dollars (\$250,000). Prosecuting lawyers claimed that Patterson's scheme was the largest single social welfare fraud ever detected. He told police when arrested: "I wanted to be rich. I would have been a millionaire in a couple of months if you hadn't turned up." Judge Bruce McNab said in sentencing Patterson that the man had not squandered his money on wine, women or gambling but had invested on the stock market, snaring more than 300,000 dollars (\$200,000) in profits.

Melons cure thirst but create garbage problem in Peking

PEKING (R) — People slaking their thirst by eating melons in Peking's stifling summer heat are creating a giant garbage problem for the city's sanitation authorities. The China Daily said a bumper melon crop had pushed down prices by almost 75 per cent to 18 cents per kilogramme (eight cents per pound) and melon street stalls were doing record business as a result. The newspaper said more than 250,000 tons of fresh melons were expected to pour into the capital's markets this year compared with a crop of only 165,000 tonnes last year. "The melon rinds, which rot fast under the summer heat, can cause serious problems to the city's sanitation and environment — especially in rainy weather — if they are not cleared away immediately," an official of the sanitation bureau said. The official said the city had taken the unusual step of renting seven temporary dumping yards from townships outside the city to deal with the melon garbage problem. Every summer, many elderly people are injured when they slip on discarded melon skins in the street.

Woman kills invalid by nailing him into coffin

PEKING (R) — A woman who nailed her invalid father-in-law into a coffin had him buried alive has been executed, the Peasant Daily reported Friday. The woman's husband and a sorcerer who helped her bury the man were also sentenced by a court in the inner Mongolia region, the paper said. The woman, Li Yuchua, became tired of looking after her husband's father and with the sorcerer's help drugged him and put him in a coffin. But the old man woke up and knocked off the coffin lid. Li, the sorcerer and her husband nailed it back on again and buried the coffin in the ground, ignoring the shouts and pleas from the old man inside.

Swazi post office cuts off government telephones

MBABANE (R) — Swaziland's post office said it had cut off most of the government's telephones because ministries had not paid their bills. Post and Telecommunications Department Deputy Director Nicholas Manana said in a statement he ordered 419 telephone lines disconnected after it was found ministries owed 500,000 rand (\$250,000). Telephone services to the police, fire departments and hospitals would be restricted to incoming calls, he added.

Shakespeare's theatre to be rebuilt

LONDON (R) — American actor and director Sam Wanamaker has won a 17-year battle to rebuild William Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on its original London site. The end of the legal wrangle came in an out-of-court settlement of an action brought by Wanamaker's Shakespeare Globe Trust against the left-wing London borough of Southwark, which had opposed the project. The plan had been Wanamaker's dream since 1969 when he began the battle to build the replica theatre on the south bank of the River Thames, opposite St. Paul's Cathedral.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHEAR

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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—In a recent column, you mentioned that the new version of the Goren system will include five-card majors and weak two-bids. What exactly are the requirements of a weak two-bid and how do you show a strong hand?—L.R., Nashville, Tenn.

A.—If you play weak two-bids, opening bids of two spades, two hearts and two diamonds are, in effect, preemptive opening bids, although opener usually promises more defensive values than with other preempts. All strong hands are opened with an artificial bid of two clubs, and opener's rebid shows his suit. Thus, with a hand that, under your present methods, you would open with two spades, you now open two clubs and then bid spades at your next turn.

The requirements for a weak two-bid are simple. You show a hand with a good six-card suit and 6-12 points. Most of the strength should be concentrated in the long suit, and the hand should not contain more than two defensive tricks—rarely two aces.

Note that, when you open with a weak two-bid, you deny the values for an opening bid of one in that suit. Not vulnerable, you should try to avoid making a weak two-bid on 11- and 12-point hands; vulnerable, don't open 6- or 7-point hands—that could prove to be expensive. In addition, when you are vulnerable your long suit should contain two of the three top honors. Lastly, don't open with a weak two-bid if your

hand contains a secondary four-card major suit—you might end up playing in, and perhaps going down in, two of your suit with game available in the other major.

Consider these examples:
1) ♠AK10762 ♥K85 ○63 ♣72
2) ♠QJ3 ♥AK10782 ○Q3 ♣72
3) ♠QJ3 ♥AJ8542 ○63 ♣72
4) ♠Q105 ♥AQ10542 ○63 ♣72

The first example contains 2-1/2 defensive tricks and is too strong for a weak two-bid; it is an acceptable one spade opening bid. Hand 2 is a maximum weak two-bid vulnerable, but too strong for a non-vulnerable weak two-bid; not vulnerable, either open one heart or pass and come into the auction later. Hand 3 is the opposite case—a sound weak two-bid if you are not vulnerable, but the suit quality leaves something to be desired if you are vulnerable. And the last example is a comfortable weak two-bid if you are not vulnerable, but a nervous weak two-bid vulnerable.

If you adhere to these requirements in first and second seat, the weak two-bid is a powerful weapon, both offensively and defensively. Defensively, it makes it more difficult for the opponents to enter the auction; offensively, it allows partner to judge the potential of the hand with reasonable accuracy. Naturally, in third seat you may relax the requirements for a weak two-bid, but for tactical reasons only.